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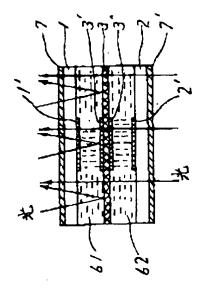
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### (54) LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY ELEMENT

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To enable displayings which are substantially equal as a whole and are good in both of reflection type and transmission type, by changing the density in both colors of the liquid crystal layer groups on both sides of a translucent plate by changing the density and thickness of the respective liquid crystal layers.

CONSTITUTION: A liquid crystal element is disposed with a milky glass plate 3 of 0.5mm thickness as a translucent plate 3 having both reflectivity transmittance provided with transparent electrodes 3', 3" at the intermediate of glass substrates 1, 2 having transparent electrodes 1', 2' on the liquid crystal aides. Nematic liquid crystals 61, 62 having positive dielectric anisotropy dissolved with a black dichromatic dye of the same density are held between the respective substrates to about 10µ so as to be oriented in parallel. Polarization plates 7, 7' are held oppositely in contact with the outside surfaces of the substrates 1, 2 whereby the liquid crystal display element is constituted. A light source for illumination is put behind the element so that the element acts as a reflection type. The element acts as a transmission type in the daytime when external light is strong. When the element is observed in the nighttime where there is no external light or in a room or in a twilight



state, the density and contrast of the displayed color do not change and there is no deviation nor out of focus of the display in either case.

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Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. 17530/1984 (Tokukaisho 59-17530) (Published on January 28, 1984)

## 1. TITLE OF INVENTION

LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY ELEMENT

## 2. WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A liquid crystal display element, arranged so that a liquid crystal layer group is constituted by stacking a plurality of substrates, having transparent electrodes on their surfaces contacting liquid crystal with dichromatic dye dissolved therein, which are disposed opposite to each other so as to sequentially sandwich the liquid crystal, wherein one of the substrates which occupies a gap between the liquid crystal layers is a translucent plate, and another of the substrates is a transparent plate.

### 3. DETAIL DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION]

The present invention relates to a liquid crystal display element used as both a reflection type and a transmission type in which a plurality of mixed-liquid-crystal layers with dichromatic dye dissolved therein are stacked.

[BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION AND CONVENTIONAL PROBLEMS|

A liquid crystal display element is categorized into three types: (i) a reflection type which uses external light depending on a condition of illumination, (ii) a transmission type which illuminates

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from a rear surface, and (iii) a so-called semi-transmission type, having both characteristics of the reflection type and the transmission type, in which a translucent plate is disposed. However, these conventional liquid crystal display elements have difficulty in realizing preferable display in both daytime and nighttime.

Fig. 1 shows an example of a single-layered-guest-host-type liquid crystal display element having a transmission-type polarization plate. In this example, a mixed liquid crystal (6) with dichromatic dye dissolved therein is held between glass substrates (1) and (2) which are respectively provided with transparent electrodes (1) and (2), and a polarization plate (7) is provided on an outside surface of the glass substrate (1), thereby realizing a liquid crystal display element (10) which is a transmission type. In this case, there is no member for reflecting light, so that the liquid crystal display element (10) continuously emits light, indicated by an arrow, from its rear surface. Thus, it is possible to obtain preferable display in the nighttime, but when there exists external light, such as sunlight, which is stronger than the illumination on the rear surface, the display is hardly seen. Further, a two-layered liquid crystal display element of Fig. 2 is known as a reflection-type-guest-host liquid crystal display element. The reflection-type display element is arranged so that: liquid crystals (61) and (62) with dichromatic dye dissolved therein are held among three glass substrates (1), (2), and (4), and transparent electrodes

(1), (2), (2"), and (4) are provided on the substrates' surfaces which are in contact with the liquid crystal, and a reflection plate (8) is provided. The display element uses external light, so that the displayed image is hardly seen in the nighttime. When a translucent plate is disposed instead of the reflection plate (8) so as to illuminate as shown by an arrow of dotted line, this element functions as a reflection type in the daytime and functions as a transmission type in the nighttime, the displayed image can be seen all time. However, in the reflection type, light goes and returns as shown by a continuous line, but in the transmission type, the light passes through the liquid crystal layer only once. Therefore, in the reflection type, color density is high, and in the transmission type, the color density is low, so that the display quality is different between the nighttime and the daytime. For example, particularly in the transmission type in the nighttime, the contrast drops. Also in case where the translucent plate is provided on the liquid crystal display element (10) of Fig. 1, the display quality likewise varies in the nighttime.

## [OBJECT OF THE INVENTION]

The object of present invention is to provide a highly practicable semi-transmission type liquid crystal display element improved so as not to change the display density and so as not to change the contrast regardless of whether it is used as the reflection type or as the transmission type.

## [SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION]

color density of a transmission type.

That is, the present invention is a liquid crystal display element which is arranged so that: a plurality of liquid crystal layers with dichromatic dye dissolved therein are stacked via substrates, and any one of the substrates which intervenes between the liquid crystal layers is a translucent substrate having reflectivity and transmissivity, and transparent electrodes are provided on its surface contacting the liquid crystal as in another substrate, thereby substantially equalizing color density of a reflection type to

The liquid crystal display element does not change the display density and does not change the contrast regardless of whether it is used as the reflection type or as the transmission type. Thus, this display element can be regarded as a semi-transmission type liquid crystal display element which is more practicable and has higher display quality.

Here, the description is given on the assumption that: a substrate between a first liquid crystal layer and a second liquid crystal layer is a translucent plate having the reflectivity and the transmissivity, and an illumination light source is disposed opposite to the translucent plate of one of the liquid crystal layers, for example, the second liquid crystal layer. In case of using the display element without turning on the illumination light source under strong external light, the external light passes through the first liquid crystal layer, and is absorbed by dye contained in the liquid crystal, and is weakened, and is reflected by the translucent plate,

and passes through the first liquid crystal layer again, and is further weakened, and is reflected. Further, in case of turning on the illumination light source without any external light, light weakened by the second liquid crystal layer passes through the second liquid crystal layer after passing through the translucent plate, so that the light is further weakened and is transmitted. Thus, by setting the dye density of the first and second liquid crystal layers and the reflectivity and the transmissivity of the translucent plate to appropriate values, it is possible to substantially equalize the color density and the contrast of the reflection type to the color density and the contrast of the transmission type, thereby improving the practicability and the display quality.

For example, two liquid crystal display elements (10) shown in Fig. 1 are combined with each other via the translucent plate (9) as shown in Fig. 3. In this case, the first liquid crystal layer and the second liquid crystal layer are separated from each other by a distance corresponding to a thickness of two glass substrates and the translucent plate. Thus, when viewed on the basis of the reflection type or the transmission type, deviation occurs in the displayed image, and when viewed on the basis of the transmission type, the second liquid crystal layer is separated from the translucent plate, so that the displayed image seems obscure.

In order to solve such problems, in the present invention, the translucent plate functions also as a substrate for holding both the first and second liquid crystal layers, so that a distance between the

first and second liquid crystal layers corresponds to a thickness of merely the translucent plate. As a result, merely by making the translucent plate thinner, it is possible to substantially prevent the deviation of the displayed image and it is possible to prevent the displayed image from being obscure, thereby further improving the display quality.

## [EXAMPLES OF THE INVENTION]

The following description will explain examples of the present invention.

In an example of an element shown in Fig. 4, a liquid crystal element is arranged so that: a milky glass plate (3) of 0.5mm thickness is disposed as a translucent plate (3), having both the reflectivity and the transmissivity, whose one surface has a transparent electrode (3) and other surface has a transparent electrode (3"), between glass substrates (1) and (2) having a transparent electrode (1) or (2"), and nematic liquid crystals (61) and (62), having positive dielectric anisotropy, which contain black dichromatic dye of the same density dissolved therein, are held between the respective substrates to about 10µ so as to be oriented in parallel. Further, polarization plates (7) and (7) are held oppositely in contact with the outside surfaces of the substrates (1) and (2), thereby constituting the liquid crystal display element. An illumination light source is disposed on a rear surface of the element so that the element acts as a reflection type in the daytime when external light is strong and acts as a transmission type in the

nighttime when there is no external light. When the element is observed in the nighttime where there is no external light or in a room or in a twilight state, it is possible to substantially prevent the deviation of the displayed image and it is possible to prevent the displayed image from being obscure, thereby further improving the display quality.

Fig. 5 shows another example of the element. A glass substrate (1) having a transparent electrode (1), a glass substrate (2) whose one surface has a transparent electrode (2) and other surface has a transparent electrode (2"), a translucent plate (3), made of milky glass of 0.5mm thickness, whose one surface has a transparent electrode (3') and other surface has a transparent electrode (3"), a glass substrate (4) whose one surface has a transparent electrode (4') and other surface has a transparent electrode (4"), and a glass substrate (5) having a transparent electrode (5') are disposed in this order. Nematic liquid crystals (61), (62), (63), and (64), having dielectric anisotropy, which contain black dichromatic dye of the same density dissolved therein, are held among the respective substrates opposite to each other so that the nematic liquid crystals are in contact with the transparent electrodes. At this time, all the liquid crystals (61), (62), (63), and (64) are aligned in parallel to each other so that an alignment direction of the liquid crystals (61) and (62) is orthogonal to an alignment direction of the liquid crystals (63) and (64).

When an illumination light source is disposed on a rear

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surface of the semi-transmission type liquid crystal display element arranged in this manner and is operated, it is possible to realize a practicable display element which hardly changes the display density and the contrast regardless of whether it is used as the reflection type or as the transmission type and substantially prevents the deviation of the displayed image and it is possible to prevent the displayed image from being obscure, thereby further improving the display quality.

In both examples, both portions sandwiching the translucent plate are constituted as single-layered portions or are constituted as two-layered portions, but it may be so arranged that: the one portion is constituted as a single-layered portion, and the other portion is constituted as a two-layered portion. As the translucent plate, milky glass (opal glass) is used, but it is possible to use a transparent plastic plate or a transparent film such as a milky acrylic plate, and it is also possible to use a plate obtained by slightly applying light diffusing material such as white pigment on at least one side of the transparent substrate or the transparent film. Further, the translucent plate may be entirely or partially colored. The translucent plate obtained in this manner has a light diffusing property and causes the displayed image to be slightly obscure. However, it may be so arranged that: for example, a transparent substrate or a transparent film is used, and a reflection surface is formed in a mesh manner or in a stripe manner, thereby obtaining a translucent plate in which reflection portions and transmission

portions are mixed with each other. In this case, it is possible to prevent the displayed image from being obscure.

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# [EFFECTS OF THE INVENTION]

According to the invention, by changing the density and the thickness of each liquid crystal layer, it is possible to equalize the color densities of the liquid crystal layer groups disposed on both sides of the translucent plate as a whole, so that the display element is used as the reflection type and as the transmission type, thereby realizing preferable display.

# 4. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 are cross sectional views of conventional liquid crystal display elements.

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view of a liquid crystal display element shown as a comparative example.

Fig. 4 and Fig. 5 are cross sectional views of liquid crystal display elements shown as examples of the present invention.

- (1), (2), (4), and (5) ... glass substrates
- (17, (27, (2"), (3"), (3"), (4"), (4"), and (5") ... transparent electrodes
  - (3) and (9) ... translucent plates
  - (7) and (7') polarization plates
  - (8) -- reflection plate
  - (6), (61), (62), (63), and (64) ··· liquid crystals
  - (10) and (11) ... liquid crystal display elements

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(3) 日本国特許庁 (JP)

① 特許出順公開

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## **砂液晶表示第子**

**②**\*\*

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② 発明 書

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## **и ж**

#### 1. 発男の名称

技术表示量子

#### 2. 特許頂求の戦闘

二色性最終を避解している被暴を、液晶化整態 する間に理明電視を個人で対向する複数の監視の 対向問題に順次掛けるせて復居している液晶層跡 の、復具層と被晶層の間を占めるいずれか器板の 一が、半透過低であり、その他は透過板であると とを検索とする液晶製象ます。

### 3. 発明の辞録を説明

(発明の旅程分野)

たの同明は二色性染料を維持している場合被品層の複数層を表層した反射透過同形常用の収量表示表子に関する。

## (発見の技術的背景と七の問題点)

版品要示案子は本東受光形の案子であつて、版 明 条件により外光を利用する反射形、 高度から取 明 する遺迹形、 異に反射性と遠遠性の内性を乗ね でなえるいわゆる半遠遠度を配及した半遠遠形の 三種に分けられる。しかしいずれの形式の製品設 示黒子だかいても、使来のものは昼夜とも 夏好を 製示をするととが歴歴である。

いせ遠遜形の偶先度付き単温グストルスト方式 の被私選が余子例を属1回に示す。この例は透明 世毎(ヒク、(ス゚)を備えるガラス高板(i)、 (2) 間に二色性 森料を維押している気会収品のを保持させ、一方 のガラス新版(1)の外型間に優先板(7)を設けて点品 投示者子切とした透過形である。との場合、光を 反射するものがたいため、胃時背間から以下矢印 で示す光を飛射して使用する。従つて、玄助は点 好な投示が持られるが、背頭の眼頭より強い遅れ 日光などの外光が存在する場合、表示を見えなく する久珠が有る。マた反射形のグストカスト方父 の在品段未来子として解2回の二層構造のものが 知られている。三板のガラス遊板(I)。(2)。(A) M に 二色性酶料を含有する製品 (61)、(62)を保持させ、 前記基度の核晶と無する菌には透明は低 (i')、(2)、 (な)(イ) を設けて被姦投示素子のとし、これに反射 仮(8)を設けた反射形の景景素子である。との裏子

#### 海南型58-17530(2)

は外光を利用するため夜間に変示を見えなる。 反射値(8)の代りに半途過程をおき背面から点種矢 即で示すように無視した場合、足間は反射形とを 間は迅速形として機能して、常時表示が見えると が在位するのに対し、強温形では一回を を通過しない。したかい反射形では色濃度に 登通場では滞くなり、特に夜間の透透形では空 速温形では滞くなり、特に夜間の透透形では する欠点がある。第1回の複品表示案子的に半途 過度を付款した場合にも上記関係、夜昼の表示 位が変化する。

#### (発明の目的)

との発明は、とのようを反射形叉は透過形の何れの状態で使用しても展示の最高を変化させず、 又ロントラスト変化をもなくするように改良された実用性の高い半透過形態品質示点子を提供する にある。

【簡単の経法】

挺ちとの処別は、二色性染料を胎解している皮

(3)

る。また外先がなく展明光深を点灯した場合には 解二の製品層で制められた光は、学透過板を通過 して第二の設品層を通過することにより更に身め られて透過してくる。従つて第一と第二の液晶層 の動料値度及び学透過板の反射及び透過性能を適 近値に数定することにより反射状態で見た時と透 通状態で見た時の色の値さヤコントラストを失気 的に等しくてき、実用性と表示品位を高めること が山来る。

そとで例えばほ1回に示した彼品表示架子のを 二個、第3回に示すように学通過板(例を介して重 ね合せるとする。との場合には第一の復品層と終 二の被品層が、ガラス基板二枚分と学過過板の厚 子だけ離れてしてい。反射又は通過で見た場合性 示にずれを生じ更に通過の場合には第二の複品層 と半通過板が触れてあるため、提示がほけてしま う。

このよう 水学駅 化対しとの 部別 化あつては 半選 過 板 角 体 が 第一 と 第二 の 板 品 暦 両 暦 を 保 神 ナ る 岩 板 を か ね て い る た む 、 歳 一 と 蘇 二 の 被 品 層 の 距 粒

品層を高板を介して複数層後層し且つ核晶層と核晶層の間にある何れか一の面板が光度射性と光透透性の所はで加えた単透過度であり、「中華技術社会の所以を個えた単透過度であり、「中華技術社会の所以を図り、「中華技術社会の所以を図り、「中華技術社会の自動をという。」ということを特徴とする核晶表示ますにある。

反射又は透透の何れの快盤で使用してもこの放 品製条菓子は展示機能を変化させず、又コントラ エトを変化させない。 それ放実用性を、又提示品 位を映に高めた平透過形被品表示果子ということ 却できる。

いて那一の放品層と第二の放品層の間にある当板を反射性と透過性の興性の単透過板とし、 七七一方の放品層例えば第二の放品層の単透過板とした 投資 国に無明光源をかくとする。 強い外光のもとで無明光策を点灯せずに使用する場合には、外光は第一の液晶層を通過して収品中の発料による 数収をうけが 動わられ 伊透過板で反射されてく

(4)

は半速過度の厚多のみとなり、半速通便を除くし さえずれば異質的に要素のずれ及びはけを解析で き、要素品位を更に向上させる。

#### 【発明の支差例】

以下にとの発明の後施例について述べる。

解4回に示す来子例は、何れも在品図に当所と 低(Y)又は(T)を備えたガラス基度(1)と(2)との中間 に、選項環環(5)を一方の間に、通明収損(3")を他 方の間に備えた反射性、透過性同性能の単遠過度 (3)として 0.5 mm 序の乳白ガラス版(3)を配像し、所能 度の無色の二色性染料を溶解した房里具方性正の ネマチック液晶(61)、(52)を平行配向するように 約10×の形ち各美質関に供行ませてある。又ガ ラス基板(1)、(2)の外間には個光板(7)、(7')を対数 させ液晶膜示果子を構成してある。

この半遠過形骸品表示果子の背面化照明光球を かき、反射形として外光の強い裏間に、遠過形と して外光のない変間に、強いは反射又は透過の間 形として外光の比較的弱い盆内や薄暮の次線でと の案子を観察した検条、いずれの状態においても

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我同期58-17530(3)

表示色の表さとコントフストがほとんど変化せす 更に表示のずれやほけるなく表示品位を良好にする。

第5面に他の実施例象子を示式通明巡極(1')を 値えるガラス当世(1)、通明監要(2')を一方の間に、 通明巡極(2')を他方の個に、通界監値(2')を他方 の面に個える 0.5 ma PR の乳口ガラスからたる単過 通質(3)、通明監視(4')を一方の間に、通明監視(4') を他方の間に個えるガラス当版(6)が順に配置されでいる。 通明に個に優えるガラス当版(6)が順に配置されでいる。 透明に個に接するように各当版の対向関値に 同一級成の無色発料を海解した課業具方性正のネ マテック液晶(61)、(62)、(63)、(64)を保持させる。 との吸液晶(61)、(62)、(63)、(64) を保持させる。 との吸液晶(61)、(62)、(63)、(64) を保持させる。 との吸液晶(61)、(62)、(63)と(64) の配向方向が直要 するようにしてある。

とのように形成されている中選進形の技品投示 果子の背間に限明光成をおき動作をせたところ。 反射形として取いは遊返形として何れによつて便

(7)

とのようをとの見別によれば単遺通道の両別に、 ある複品層節の両色類変を、それぞれの放品層の 最変及び呼ばを変えるととにより、金体として異 質的に等しくとることが出来。反射形、遠遥形の 関額に用いて表示を点好にさせる。

#### 4. 国国の簡単を説明

# 1 昭 及 U 解 2 図 社 使 来 O 核 品 製 示 ま 子 の 断 面 図 、

解《国及部3国は何れるとの発酵の実施例液品 表示某子の新属酸である。

### 各国で

(1)、(2)、(4)。(5)…ガラス当田、

(1')、(2')、(3')、(3')、(4')、(4')、(5')… 进势电低、

(3)、(9)… 华澄溢板、

(7)。(7')…似光板。

(8) … 反射板、

(6)、(61)、(62)、(63)、(64)… 版品、

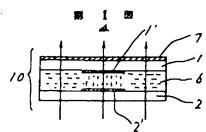
07、(1)… 极格表示景子。

代国人 弁禁士 非 上 一 初

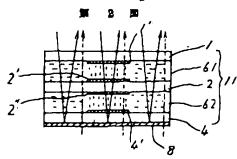
<sup>(9)</sup> —167—

用しても、要求の異させコントラストの配化が少なく、更に供示のずれだけをほとんどなくし、 歴 変にかむわらず表示品位を良好にして実用性ある 展示菓子となつている。

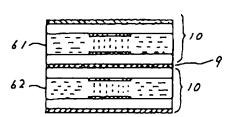
(無吹の炒品)

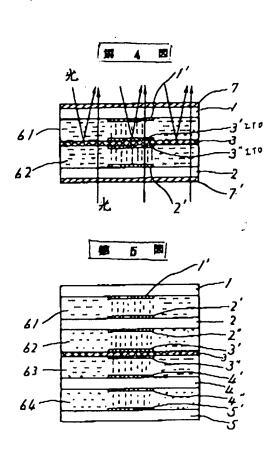


(8)



**#** 8 B





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